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Message Text

SECRET

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65
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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S/S:MR. ORTIZ
OASD/ISA(UK) MR. TIMBERLAKE
EUR/RPM:HAHOLMES
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P R 311613Z JUL 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
CSAF DC/XOX/XOO/OI
CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB NE/XO/DO/OI
CINCUSAFE RANSTEIN AB GE/DO/OI
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT

S E C R E T STATE 180648

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO, UK, US

SUBJECT: TRAINING EXERCISE BUFFALO GRASS

REF: LONDON 10411

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1. THE FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO REF MSG. CINCSAC

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EXPLAN 9-75, NICKNAMED BUFFALO GRASS, IS AN ON-THE-SHELF TRAINING EXERCISE PLAN THAT COULD BE IMPLEMENTED PERIODICALLY ON AN QTE AS REQUIRED UNQTE BASIS.

2. THE INITIAL EXERCISE QTE BUFFALO GRASS I UNQTE ENVISIONS TWO B-52H AIRCRAFT LAUNCHED FROM THE CONUS FOR A NIGHT LOW LEVEL SIMULATED BOMB RUN ON RAMSTEIN AB RADAR BOMB SITE AND RETURNING TO CONUS NON-STOP. DURATION OF BUFFALO GRASS I WOULD BE 19 HOURS. SUCCEEDING EXERCISE (S) WOULD BE TERMED QTE BUFFALO GRASS II ... ETC UNQTE. IMPLEMENTATION DATES FOR INITIAL AND SUCCEEDING EXERCISES WILL BE COORDINATED THROUGH APPROPRIATE CHANNELS PRIOR TO EXECUTION TO INSURE NON-INTERFERENCE WITH PLANNED AND/OR ONGOING OPERATIONS; ALL ADDEES THIS MSG WILL BE ADVISED.

3. THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROPOSED PRESS LINE TO EXPLAIN

THE B-52 PRESENCE IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER.

A. BUFFALO GRASS RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERY:

Q. WHY ARE B-52S OPERATING IN EUROPE?

A. QUOTE. THE U.S. IS CONDUCTING B-52 TRAINING MISSIONS INTO THE EUROPEAN THEATER ON A LIMITED BASIS. TWO B-52S LAUNCHED FROM THE UNITED STATES ARE FLYING LOW LEVEL MISSIONS IN THE VICINITY OF RAMSTEIN, GERMANY. THE AIRCRAFT RETURN TO THE UNITED TATES WITHOUT LANDING IN EUROPE. THE B-52S ARE CARRYING NO ORDNANCE OF ANY KIND. THE PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING IS TO EXERCISE THE CONCEPT

OF EMPLOYING U.S. BASED B-52 AIRCRAFT IN SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN CONTINGENCIES. UNQUOTE.

B. THE PROPOSED PRESS LINE DESCRIBED ABOVE WOULD BE DOWNGRADED TO UNCLASSIFIED UPON EXECUTION OF EXERCISE.

4. RECOMMEND EUCOM PAO, IN COORDINATION WITH USAFE/0I, RESPOND TO EUROPEAN PRESS QUERIES. TRANSMIT ALL OTHER QUERIES THAT FALL OUTSIDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE ABOVE

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STATEMENT TO OASD/PA FOR RESPONSES, WITH INFO COPY TO SAF/0I AND SAC/3I.

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 31 JUL 1975
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: MARR, UK, US, NATO
To: LONDON USCINCEUR
Type: TE
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